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## Winter Institute debuts in Columbia

Sixty-two participants from libraries across Missouri attended the first Library Skills Winter Institute at the Quality Inn in Columbia, February 19-22, 2002. This institute was held because of the overwhelming request for the Basic Track during previous summer institutes. Completion of the Basic Track is required for more advanced courses which are offered during the Library Skills Summer Institutes. Both summer and winter institutes are designed for non-degreed library staff.

Dan Ross, Executive Deputy Secretary of State, welcomed the attendees and spoke about the value of libraries and Secretary of State Matt Blunt's desire to maintain current funding levels for libraries as the state faces a critical revenue shortfall.

Presenters from the Missouri library community provided instruction in topics including: introduction to libraries and their purpose; library standards; the relationship between the library board, director, and staff; elements of a library; circulation and customer service; overview of outreach service; reference service; services to adults and senior adults; services to

young adults and children; evolution of technology in libraries; search engines; collection development; small libraries seminar; and book reviewing and the publishing industry.

Attendees enjoyed opportunities for networking with colleagues and for interaction with State Library staff during the institute.



Winter Institute graduates (Lloyd Grotjan photo)

## Bush budget increases spending for libraries

The Administration's FY2003 budget includes increases of \$13 million for library programs under the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Last year's funding was \$207 million but included a large number of set-asides. The budget de-funds the set-asides from FY2002.

The total for library programs would be set at \$182 million. Also included would be

\$10 million under the National Leadership Grants program for library professional recruitment.

Funding for school library materials, recently included in the reauthorized "Leave No Child Behind" ESEA reauthorization, would be set at \$12 million, the same level as funding for FY2002. Unless funds for this program achieve a level over \$100 million, it does not become a block grant to all states but remains a competitive grant administered by the Department of Education.

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Check out **newsline online** (ISSN 1088-7237) at [www.sos.mo.gov/library/newsline/newsline.asp](http://www.sos.mo.gov/library/newsline/newsline.asp)

## State Library submits LSTA annual report; names exemplary projects

The 2001 Library Services and Technology Act annual report has been completed and submitted to the Institute for Museum and Library Services for approval. The report includes the expenditures for all Missouri programs funded with FY2001 federal library funds. It includes a description of each completed project by category. Also part of the report is the selection of exemplary projects, i.e., those projects which target special populations, represent cooperative efforts among institutions and agencies, address a critical need, or show potential for replication by other libraries.

### 2001 LSTA Exemplary Projects

#### Learning for Life

This project represents an outstanding example of multi-level cooperation within a rural farming community. Malta Bend in Saline County has been hard hit by changes in the farm economy, and 61% of its children are on the free or reduced lunch program. Most of the farm families commute out of the district to day jobs. Despite these circumstances, the voters in 1998 gave a 75% approval for a bond issue to add on to the local K-12 school, with space for a new library. Community members also donated labor to save over \$20,000 in costs for completion of the new construction, which was finished in March 2000. In exchange, the school opens the library to the public on Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings. This project funded the purchase of two additional computer work stations and the costs for professional instruction in three series of four sequential classes in computer skills for adults. Most of the adult population in Saline County does not possess the skills demanded by jobs projected to be in high demand in the county by 2005.

#### Seeking Solutions

This project was developed within the State Library's youth services and continuing ed-

ucation sections. Its purpose was to raise awareness among youth services staff at Missouri public and school libraries about the positive impact they can have on the at-risk community. Activities included a statewide conference, during which participants received an action form and, at the conclusion of the conference, designated the steps they would take to work with youth in their communities. A later phone survey determined progress made toward fulfilling their commitments. From these efforts and comments from librarians, the State Library designed an After School Connections competitive grant program, made a call for grant applications, and received 11 applications, of which four were recommended for funding. (See *newsline*, February 2002).

#### Statewide Digitization

Administered by the Missouri Library Network Corporation, this Library Cooperation grant project involves collaboration among libraries, archives, museums, and other cultural heritage institutions to develop a statewide digitization plan. Collections across the state were identified for possible digitization, a Web-accessible database called Virtually Missouri was created as a clearinghouse for information about Missouri digitization projects, and a statewide conference brought together institutions to share experiences and hear presentations from nationally known authorities in the field. A planning committee meets quarterly to advise MLNC, and working groups research and write recommendations on standards and best practices for a range of issues from digital imaging and meta data to intellectual property and collection evaluation. The project's website is located at [www.virtuallymissouri.org](http://www.virtuallymissouri.org).

#### Statewide School Libraries Study

This project will generate important data about resource sharing and information technology use among the state's school li-

## *African American life and history in Missouri*

### **Blunt opens new online frontier for historical research**

Secretary of State Matt Blunt has announced his office has completed a major project in its African American History Initiative with publication online of a comprehensive, digital Guide to African American History at the Missouri State Archives.

"My goal for the Archives is to rededicate ourselves to the recovery of Missouri's black heritage," Blunt said. "As part of this initiative, we seek a broad public awareness of the rich contributions of African Americans in Missouri. We want to offer new and unprecedented access for classroom teachers, historians, and others to the thousands of historic documents preserved at the Archives in Jefferson City.

Kenneth Winn, State Archivist, and Christyn Elley, archives historian, were the lead professional staff in creating the online guide. Winn said records cataloged online, with annotations, are highly diverse and include marriages, "freedom suits" in the courts, and state statutes on slavery. He emphasized the mission of the State Archives is to serve as Missouri's memory, with the purpose of bringing all Missourians to a shared knowledge and appreciation of the state's rich and diverse history.

Winn said, "To accomplish this mission, we must address all of our state's past, including Missouri's part in the great wrongs of American history, slavery and segregation. Thousands of educational and revealing documents are unique to the Archives."



**Dalton Chapter, New Farmers of America**

braries. The State Library, in partnership with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Missouri Association of School Librarians, will use the data in a statewide school library survey with the hope of long-term commitment to strong school libraries. The study will identify problems with budgets allocations for technology and technology support, outdated equipment, adherence to widely used standards, technical processing of materials, and training in library systems.

#### **Understanding and Serving Special Populations in Today's Library**

This project demonstrates a major commitment by the St. Louis Public Library to address demographic changes within its region. It consists of five half-day workshops for staff members from all libraries in the

St. Louis region to receive training in working with five special populations: new immigrants and their cultures; youth, seniors; patrons with emotional or psychological needs; and making community contacts/developing and building relationships. The intended outcome of the workshops is to enhance the quality of life within the targeted groups through increased knowledge and skills, and changes in behavior, i.e., to increase library usage within special populations through better service and outreach.

After the workshop, the library and its project partners will prepare training resources and analyze results of a follow-up survey to determine whether the project is suitable for replication. If so, they will develop a model for cooperative library training in the St. Louis area and for use in other regions.



### **Web Watch**

#### **BoardSource**

<http://www.boardsource.org>

Formerly the National Center for Nonprofit Boards, BoardSource is the premier resource for practical information, tools and best practices, training, and leadership development for board members of nonprofit organizations.

#### **Book Adventure**

<http://www.bookadventure.org>

This site offers a free motivational reading program for children in grades K-8. Reviewers help children choose a book to read, either from a library or bookstore. After the book is read, children can take a quiz online, with the incentive of prizes after a number of quizzes are completed. Parents can monitor their child's activities and find resources for reading challenges in their families. Librarians can access articles that may help them increase parental involvement.



**newsline** welcomes information for "Missouri Library News" and "Personal Notes" from librarians, library trustees, and others interested in the state's libraries. Send news about library events, projects, awards, and personnel changes to the editor. (See page 2 for contact information.)



### Worth Countians raise funds for partnership library

A major fundraising campaign that will result in a unique Partnership Library is underway in Worth County. So far, the campaign has raised \$207,000, and campaign organizers hope to raise \$418,000 by the spring. The Worth County Stewardship Council is coordinating the campaign.

The library will be a shared facility, serving students in the school district as well as county residents. It will be located at the Worth County High School, its size depending on the amount of funds raised. Among the positive aspects of the school/public library collaboration are more hours of library access for students, after-school programming, and other activities and programs not available in Worth County.

Things still to be worked out include staffing for the public library; traffic, parking, and public availability during school rush hours; and policies regarding issues that will arise related to combining a school and public library.

The Stewardship Council hopes construction will begin in the summer, with completion by the end of the year.

### Rich Hill Library receives gift

A long-time Rich Hill teacher bequeathed a number of generous gifts to educational and cultural institutions in Rich Hill area, including the local public library. Mary Griffin, who taught in the Rich Hill school system for 46 consecutive years and died last December, left \$10,000 to the Rich Hill Memorial Library. Wanda Turner, library director, said the board has not made a final decision on how the money will be used.

### Columbia's community reading promotion

The Daniel Boone Regional Library has joined with local bookstores and media to

sponsor "Mid-Missouri Talks Books," a program that suggests community residents read the same book each month. One of the eight program partners selects a book for the month and plans related activities such as discussions and lectures. The participating media outlets publicize the book throughout the month, and library staff compile a "read-alike" list posted on the library website. Co-sponsors include Columbia Bookstore, *Columbia Daily Tribune*, Ellis Library at MU, KBIA-FM, KOMU-TV, Tiger Tales Bookstore, and University Bookstore.

The program is growing in popularity in the city, according to Sally Abromovitz, a library staff member who works with the community partners.

### SMSU library commemorates Ozarks African-American heritage



Southwest Missouri State University recently commemorated the region's African-American heritage through exhibits and events in the newly expanded Meyer Library and Information Center.

At the center of the celebration was the release of the Langston Hughes' postage stamp. Hughes was a native of nearby Joplin and one of the most important American writers of the 20th century.

To honor Hughes' inclusion in U.S. Postal Service's Black Heritage series, the library offered a pictorial cancellation on February 4, 2002. Visitors from throughout the region were on hand as students recited from the works of Hughes, and members of the campus Gospel Choice performed. In addition, library staff developed an exhibit on Hughes' life and work, as well as a bibliography on related materials.

Tied to this event, the library mounted its first major exhibit in the newly opened addition. "African Americans in the Ozarks" offers students, staff, and visitors an opportunity to view more than 200 photographs



and objects from the Katherine G. Lederer Ozarks African-American History Collection. Over a 20-year period, Dr. Lederer, SMSU professor of English, has developed an extensive collection related to the region's ethnic heritage. Recently donated to the library, this collection contains approximately 7,500 documents, over 2,600 of which are photographs. The exhibit continues through April 19, 2002.

## **"Electronic brochure" promotes Springfield library services**

The Springfield-Greene County Library introduced an exciting new promotional item—an "electronic brochure"—at a recent Business Expo in the city. The library's "business card video" is a CD-ROM the size of a business card and includes a two-minute streaming video and links to the library's website. Even though the disc is small, it fits into a standard CD-ROM drive on a computer. The drive recognizes and reads the disk then displays it on the monitor.

This new item shows the library's general services as well as links to business resources and "About the Library" pages. The video portion of the CD-ROM is "ever-green" (as undated as possible), and features several staff members describing a range of library services.

Future versions of the disk will feature other library resources and target different user groups.

## **Civic group to study Kansas City libraries and adult literacy**

Kansas City Consensus has launched two new studies on libraries and adult literacy in the metropolitan area. Founded in 1984, this citizens' organization researches, recommends, and pursues action on a variety of important issues. It is considered a source of innovative ideas and neutral, facts-based studies on some of the most important issues facing the city.

The organization names a task force to learn about an issue and produce a report with specific recommendations, and then forms another group to work toward action. Its work has resulted in new laws and new and improved programs.

The group will study how the metropolitan area libraries should best be structured, organized, and funded to optimize service and performance in the future. A background paper on this issue, titled "Libraries and Regional Excellence," is available in .pdf format at [www.kcconsensus.org/Library\\_Charge.pdf](http://www.kcconsensus.org/Library_Charge.pdf).

For literacy, a task force will study how area employers, unions, and employees can develop a means to increase literacy in the workplace and what it would take to put such a system in place. The background paper, "Literacy: The Workplace Response," is available in .pdf format at [www.kcconsensus.org/Literacy\\_Charge.pdf](http://www.kcconsensus.org/Literacy_Charge.pdf).

## **Polk County Library programs explore diverse cultures**

With a grant from the Missouri Humanities Council, the Polk County Library has organized a monthly book discussion series titled "Savoring Our American Melting Pot: Contemporary Cultures in America and How They Clash or Mesh." Through a study of five books, the series will examine Muslim, Hispanic, Japanese-American, Native American, and Jewish cultures in southwest Missouri and the U.S.

Dr. William Hooper, project director and former dean of fine arts at Southwest Baptist University (SBU), said the theme is timely given that more than 55 million people are first- or second-generation immigrants, according to Census 2000. In the U.S., 25 percent and in Missouri, 13 percent of the population represent ethnicities that are classified non-white. And Missourians reported 27 different ancestries.

Books selected for the program include: *American Muslims: The New Generation* by Asma Gull Hasan, *Snow Falling on Cedars* by David Guterson, *Family Installments: Memories of Growing Up Hispanic* by Ed-

## **LSTA reauthorization webpage**

The American Library Association has launched a webpage focusing on the reauthorization of the Library Services and Technology Act. The current legislation expires on September 30, 2002.

Legislators are being asked to increase funding for state-based grants and local programs, national leadership grants, and grants to Native American libraries.

The website at [www.ala.org/washoff/lsta](http://www.ala.org/washoff/lsta) includes an advocacy toolkit and contact information for state LSTA coordinators. An electronic brochure is available at [www.ala.org/washoff/lsta.html](http://www.ala.org/washoff/lsta.html), and a related website is devoted to LSTA library success stories at <https://cs.ala.org/lsta>.

**More Library News**



## Poetry in American high schools

Billy Collins, poet laureate of the U.S., has created a program to introduce poetry to the nation's high schools on a daily basis. His "Poetry 180" is designed "to make it easy for students to hear or read a poem each day of the 180 days of the school year." He has selected 180 poems with high school students in mind, and these poems are listed and appear in their entirety along with permissions information on the Web at [www.loc.gov/poetry/180/](http://www.loc.gov/poetry/180/). The poems are intended to be listened to, and he suggests that all members of the school community be included as readers.

Collins' selection of poems is also a great resource for librarians as a ready-made list for programming with young adults.

ward Rivera, *Postville: A Clash of Cultures in Heartland America* by Stephen G. Bloom, and *On the Rez* by Ian Frazier.



## Survey seeks oral history collections

With the assistance of the State Historical Society of Missouri and Southwest Missouri State University, a statewide survey of oral history collections is being conducted this year. The comprehensive survey is targeting libraries, museums, and historical societies in an effort to gather information for a Missouri oral history directory, to be published in the spring of 2003.

Historians, archivists, and librarians across the state are aware of the importance of oral history in documenting the social, cultural, economic, and political history of Missouri. Hundreds of oral history projects have been conducted in Missouri since our nation's Bicentennial first brought about an awareness of oral history as an important primary source. Interviews with veterans, politicians, laborers, school teachers, and others were placed into public and private libraries, archives, and museums. Most are preserved in some manner, but few are adequately cataloged or described for researchers. This lack of access contributes to their lack of use by researchers. The Missouri oral history directory should improve access to these often-forgotten resources.

To obtain accurate information on various programs, the project is using a two-part survey. The first part of the survey asks for general information regarding an overall program; the second part inquires about specific series or projects within a collection. Survey forms were sent to public, academic, and special libraries in late February and early March with a due date of May 1, 2001. The survey can also be completed online at <http://library.smsu.edu/projects/archives/form1.html>

For institutions with exceptionally large collections, an on-site survey will be conducted later this summer to provide details on individual projects. For more information or questions concerning the survey, please contact David Richards at [Archives@smsu.edu](mailto:Archives@smsu.edu) or call (417) 836-4299.

## National Poetry Month 2002

**Free poster available**



This April will mark the seventh anniversary of National Poetry Month (NPM), undeniably the largest, most democratic celebration of any of the arts in America.

Inaugurated by the Academy of

American Poets in April 1996, the National Poetry Month initiative has grown exponentially, with an estimated audience that now reaches into the tens of millions.

NPM brings together publishers, libraries, booksellers, literary organizations, schools, and poets around the country to celebrate poetry and its vital place in American culture. Thousands of businesses and non-profit organizations participate through readings, festivals, book displays, workshops, and other events.

This year, NPM will bring special attention to the 100th anniversary of the birth of Langston Hughes, featuring the beloved poet on the National Poetry Month poster, as well as in the national advertising campaign. The Academy has also launched a special Langston Hughes Centenary Exhibit on [www.poets.org](http://www.poets.org) dedicated to the life and work of Hughes.

Hughes is the sole focus of the 2002 NPM poster, which is available free by visiting the NPM Poster Gallery ([www.poets.org/npm/](http://www.poets.org/npm/)) and submitting an online request.

## Homeland security and Missouri's libraries

State librarian Sara Parker has prepared a report on library contributions to homeland security for the Missouri Security Panel, a statewide group formed by Governor Holden after the September 11 terrorist attacks. Her report focuses on ways in which libraries of all types can provide immediate services as well as continuing and long-term services. A synopsis of her report follows:

### **Immediate services**

- \*Libraries can provide information to the public by posting emergency and fast-breaking news on websites, distributing paper copies of materials to the public, using community bulletin boards on library websites, offering television sets in public areas, and serving as a place for community meetings.

- \* Skilled reference librarians can be assigned to staff information phone lines, including emergency lines set up for the public.

- \* Libraries can provide relevant information to those people who are managing or working in homeland security. Examples include library-maintained community information files, geographic information system (GIS) capability, the state census data center, satellite downlinks through school libraries, the state's academic library delivery system, public library delivery systems, and book-mobile generators.

- \* Libraries can provide Internet access including e-mail to reach people and agencies

when voice telephone lines may be overloaded.

- \* Library buildings can function as emergency centers, drop-off sites, and offer vans or trucks for deliveries.

### **Continuing and long-term services**

- \* Libraries provide information for both the public and those involved in homeland security. They can serve as distribution points for handout information for the public and as a place for the public to access government documents, research findings, and news accounts. Their public access computers can be set up with a homeland security icon so a quick click shows links to a broad array of relevant websites.

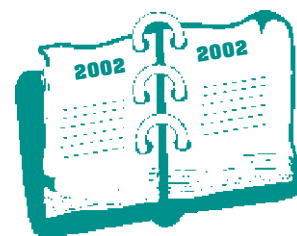
- \* Libraries can sponsor or be a site for public programs on key topics. The public is used to coming to the library for community meetings and likes the "neutrality" of being at the library.

- \* Libraries can build displays and bulletin boards on homeland security, host websites for other agencies, and organize and operate speakers' bureaus for agencies working together.

- \* Libraries make good sites for training. Many have computer labs and meeting rooms. The upcoming statewide videoconferencing network can play a key role in disseminating information to various regions of the state.

- \* Library resources in various formats help the public to gain deeper understanding of political, social, and cultural issues.

## Upcoming Events



**April 20**  
Friends of Wolfner Library  
Annual Meeting  
Jefferson City

**April 21**  
Wolfner Volunteer  
Appreciation Program  
Jefferson City

**April 23**  
World Book & Copyright Day

**May**  
Get Caught Reading Month  
National Book Month

**May 1-4**  
St. Louis Storytelling Festival  
St. Louis

**May 3-5**  
Book Expo America  
New York

**May 7**  
National Library Legislative  
Day

**May 17-23**  
Medical Library Association  
Annual Conference  
Dallas

**May 30**  
Secretary's Council on  
Library Development  
Meeting  
Jefferson City

## Online data tracks status of U.S. children

KIDS COUNT, a project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation in Baltimore, Maryland, has compiled indicators of child well-being from Census 2000 and created an interactive online database at <http://www.kidscount.org/census>. The Annie E. Casey Foundation plans to enhance the database on a regular basis, and new data will be added as it is released by the Census Bureau.

Users can easily create, view, and print reports from the Web tool, or download data in tab-delimited text format for import into most spreadsheet applications. The database's quick rank feature is available to create rankings in data categories for states, counties, largest cities, metropolitan areas, and U.S. congressional districts.

- The 1930 census was the last census that asked U.S. residents if they could read or write. It also was the last census in which everyone was asked the same set of questions.
- In 1930, veterans could indicate service in World War I, the Spanish-American War, the Civil War, the Philippine Insurrection, the Boxer Rebellion, or the Mexican Expedition.
- In 1930—at the dawn of the Great Depression—life expectancy in the United States was less than 60 years, compared to 77 years in 2002.

## 1930 census scheduled for April release

After nearly three-quarters of a century, the 1930 census is scheduled for release on April 1, 2002. Since census records include individual names and information about specific households, federal law requires that 72 years must pass before individual census records can be released to the public.

Information about the release is available on the National Archives and Records Administration's website at <http://www.nara.gov/genealogy/1930cen.html#date>.

The National Archives and Records Administration is currently accepting "whole state" and "whole country" orders for microfilmed 1930 schedules (T626) and related microfilmed 1930 soundexes. The microfilm will be shipped the first week of April 2002. The price is \$34 per roll ordered for black and white microfilm (cen-

sus schedules, soundex, T1224). Credit card orders are accepted at 800-234-8861.

All other 1930 census schedule and related soundex microfilm purchases (individual rolls, less than a "whole state") will be accepted beginning April 1, 2002.



**1930s Census taker.**

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